



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 21, 2019

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 11

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 166 years our Covenant has been: We covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ and one another, and bind ourselves in the presence of God to live together in all God's ways as revealed to us by the Holy Spirit and holy scripture. The church acknowledges that all members have the right of individual interpretation of the principles of the Christian faith and respects them in their honest convictions. In accordance with the teaching of our Lord, the church recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.*

Please silence all electronic devices.

Assistive listening devices and large-print bulletins with hymns of the day are available at the Sanctuary doors. Deacons wearing white roses and Ushers wearing red roses can assist you.

Cards requesting prayer are in the Welcome Notebooks and should be placed in the offering plate.

(* Indicates the congregation should stand as they are able.)

*Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve. Please use this time for quiet preparation for worship.
 'We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of your temple.'
 (Psalm 48:8)*

PRELUDE G.F. Handel
Largo
 SallyJane Mathias, *cello*

ENTER TO WORSHIP Greg Kellison

Leader: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

** Then all stand.*

L: We gather this day from a week filled with needs and demands.

P: We come to find rest and renewal of our spirits.

L: Open your hearts in love to hear the voice of God.

**P: We want to quietly rest in God's presence,
 free from the clamor of the world.**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN 339 Slane
 Be Thou My Vision

* INVOCATION The Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston

L: God be with you.

P. And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Holy One, you know us already. Help us to know you better. Let us see you both in front of us and behind us. Infuse our worship with your Spirit so that we may learn to recognize your presence in all places; through the worthiness of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE Anthony Brown

L: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

Please find the attendance pad at the end of the pew, sign it and pass it on to your neighbor.

CHILDREN'S TIME Mr. Brown

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Mr. Kellison
 Genesis 18:1–10a (O.T. p. 14)

L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

P: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE Mr. Kellison
 Colossians 1:15–28 (N.T. p. 200)

L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

P: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL HYMN 522 *Land of Rest*
 Lord, When I Came Into This Life
Children, Kindergarten through 2nd grade, are invited to Worship Connections in the Children's Library on the 2nd floor of the Education Wing. Today, Barb Clapham will meet the children at the Education Wing door and take them to Worship Connections. The children will return after the sermon. A fully-staffed childcare ministry is provided during each Sunday Morning Worship Service and Education Hour for infants through age 4. This ministry is located in the nursery and toddler rooms on the first floor of the Education Wing.

THE GOSPEL Mr. Brown
 Luke 10:38–42 (N.T. p. 72)

L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Mr. Brown
 "Fresh Starts Here"

A time of reflection follows.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Livingston

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
 for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
 Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

MISSION INVITATION Morgan Sparks

Cash and designated checks go to **Gladden Community House**, a settlement house located in the heart of Franklinton on the near west side of Columbus, was founded as a neighborhood outreach mission of First Congregational Church. The mission is to strengthen the well-being of Franklinton's children, families, and community, and build a thriving equitable neighborhood. Gladden provides community services, youth services, a preschool and a food pantry. Thank you for your generosity.

INSTRUMENTAL J.S. Bach
 Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring, BWV 147

* PRESENTATION HYMN 375 Toulon
 Lord of All Good, *stanza 1*

**Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to You;
 Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill;
 Tokens of love and pledges brought anew,
 That our whole life is offered to Your will.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Livingston

Please be seated for the Notices.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE Mr. Brown

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN 282 Wer nur den lieben Gott
 If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

* BENEDICTION Mr. Brown

POSTLUDE Bach
 Wer nur den lieben Gott, BWV 642

Please be seated for the Postlude.

Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found welcome, peace and grace here, and invite you to return often. If you would like more information or have any questions about First Church, please ask anyone wearing a nametag. We would be delighted to assist you. Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.

ACOLYTES: Erin Dean and Sebby Kulwicki

MUSIC: SallyJane Mathias, *cello*; Kevin Jones, *organist*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their granddaughter, Miriam Grace Shimeall-Shanahan, by Lisa Morris and Kent Shimeall.

THE WHITE ROSE on the Communion Table gives thanks for the life of Colonel William Owen who died on Tuesday morning.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:

Broad Street – Mr. Brown
Ninth Street – Rev. Livingston
Education Wing – Amy Wagner

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Welcome Statement

You are welcomed, affirmed, and loved here; our faith informs us that you are a child of a loving God. Your characteristics and gifts will enrich our congregation. In this community, you will be celebrated, embraced, and honored, no matter how you identify or how your identity may evolve. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join us in our diverse yet united experience.

First Church is a Faith Community

- Called together by God, the Creator and Sustainer of life, to worship, pray and serve;
- Led by Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior, to learn the faith and welcome all God's children;
- Empowered by the Holy Spirit to witness to God's love and justice between ourselves, and throughout the world.

Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, welcome and affirm all. We believe we are all created in God's image and called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, called to unite all people in God's love. We are a community seeking God's presence and love in our lives. We seek to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, sexes, gender identities and expressions, family structures, mental, intellectual and physical conditions, economic circumstances, political, theological and faith backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)

—Adopted September 8, 2002 by the congregation.

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